

## **Draft Joint Messages for 20 June Community Meeting**

*[23 May 2013]*

**Measured progress is being made toward improving water quality and habitats in the Animas River near Silverton, and we remain fully committed to working collaboratively to address the issue on the ground as soon as possible**

- Work continues at the Red and Bonita portal to analyze the potential for bulkheading or water diversion
  - *Additional work scheduled for 2013*
- Sunnyside and the Colorado Department of Reclamation, Mining and Safety are working collaboratively to remediate the Clipper Site.
  - *This will result in a significant reduction in metals loading from the Clipper Site into the Animas River*
- Good progress is being made on settlement documentation that will free up the \$6.5M offered by Sunnyside
  - *Information has been exchanged by EPA and Sunnyside*
  - *After review and analysis of this information the parties will begin work on a potential Settlement Agreement (Consent Decree or Administrative Settlement Agreement)*
- A number of studies have been completed or are underway, as part of the effort to fully understand the mining related contamination problems in the watershed and the most efficient means of remediation
  - *EPA Screening Level Ecological Risk Assessment completed; EPA Summary Water Quality Report – Four Mines Within Cement Creek Watershed completed; Sunnyside sponsored mass loading analysis and evaluation of certain proven water treatment alternatives completed; BLM/USGS fate/transport model underway; EPA Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment underway; test treatment of Cement Creek with limestone sand being considered; BLM testing on ElectroCoagulation treatment; etc.; etc.*
- We are supporting an innovative crowdsourcing effort to discover more efficient methodologies of addressing acid rock drainage
  - *Sunnyside has committed \$7,500 and is working with industry and NGOs to gain additional funding (Already committed – TU, \$5,000; NMA, \$5,000; NWMA \$1,000; Freeport \$7,500)*
  - *[Are EPA/BLM in a position to support this effort?]*